

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 071995
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

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S/S:DROBINSON

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O 210037Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 071995

EXDIS USSALTTWO AND AMBASSADOR WARNKE

FOL RPT THE HAGUE 1482 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO BONN,
LONDON & USNATO DTD 20 MAR 78

QUOTE: S E C R E T THE HAGUE 1482

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: NMUC, NATO, NL
SUBJ: ERW CONSULTATIONS

REF: STATE 70801

1. THE CANCELLATION OF SCHEDULED ERW CONSULTATIONS IS LIKELY
TO GIVE RISE TO MISINTERPRETATION AND TO RAISE QUESTIONS IN THE
NETHERLANDS.

2. WE EXPECT THAT DUTCH PRESS, WHICH HAS BEEN RIGHT ON TOP
OF ERW ISSUE WITH ESSENTIALLY ACCURATE REPORTING, WILL RAPIDLY
FIND OUT ABOUT THE CANCELLATION. THIS WILL TRIGGER SPECULATION,
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PAGE 02 STATE 071995

POSSIBLY ABOUT WASHINGTON GETTING COLD FEET, AND MAY EVEN
LEAD TO EXAGGERATED--AND OF COURSE UTTERLY MISLEADING--INFERENCE
THAT SOMEHOW CANCELLATION IS LINKED TO THE MASSIVE DEMONSTRATION
HELD MARCH 18-19 IN AMSTERDAM AGAINST THE NEURTON BOMB.

3. THOUGH WE HAVE NOT AS YET HAD ANY DUTCH REACTION, CANCELLATION
IS LIKELY TO BE WELCOME. GON, ALREADY IN A DIFFICULT POSITION,

IS BEING NEEDLED BY SOCIALIST OPPOSITION LEADER AND FORMER
DEF MIN STEMERDINK, WHO QUESTIONED THE NEED FOR A QUICK NATO
DECISION. THOUGH PREDICTIONS ARE HAZARDOUS, THERE IS A POSSI-
BILITY THAT OPPONENTS OF THE WEAPON MIGHT TAKE ADVANTAGE OF
ADDITIONAL TIME TO SEEK TO TIE THE HANDS OF THE GOVERNMENT EVEN
FURTHER THAN IS ALREADY THE CASE.
BROWN UNQUOTE VANCE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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